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the significance of La Mettrie as a biological philosopher. The appendix and notes contain merely a dialectical comparison of the materialism of the author with such theories as those of Descartes, Hobbes, and Holbach. It is an attempt of the blind to lead the blind. The book would be more valuable with nothing but the text.

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The Training of Children. JOHN WIRT DINSMORE. New York: American Book Company. 1912. Pp. 336.

Mr. Dinsmore's object in writing this book is "to prepare for country and village teachers a work in the development and training of the mind that would contain the essential facts of psychology so plainly and simply expressed that any person might grasp their meaning without too frequent appeal to the dictionary. . . . It is intended to furnish sound instruction based upon well-known and fundamental truths to those who are engaged in training children either in the home or in the common school." The book is written in two parts, the first part dealing with children prior to school age and the second with school life. It treats of such topics as proper clothing, colds, corporal punishment, the time for telling stories, forms of worship, the nature of evil, etc., as well as psychological facts such as the physiological basis of mental activity, the laws of memory, the development of perception, will, etc.

The book is a mixture of psychology, common sense observation of children, and moral platitudes. The style is poor and the selection and arrangement of topics leaves much to be desired. The reviewer is doubtful of the soundness of some of the instruction afforded when such statements as the following appear: "The chief aims of training the perceptive faculties are *Keenness of Observation, Accuracy of Inspection, Clear Definitions,* and *Wholesome Ambitions.*" "If we read a description of a flower or of a sunset, we must be able to form a mental picture of the one or the other, else the description will mean nothing to us." "The child sees a light and tries to grasp it; if he succeeds it burns him. The next time he will avoid it. This is his reasoning: 'The light hurt me when I touched it; this is a light, therefore it will hurt me if I touch it; I will not touch it.'" "Children should be fully instructed as to the evil effects that are certain to follow the indulgence of anger, hatred, revenge, and all evil passions." Despite its defects the book is written with an earnestness of purpose that attracts attention. The practical suggestions offered for the training of children may prove of service to those who have had no experience in the work.

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JOURNALS AND NEW BOOKS

THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PSYCHOLOGY. April, 1913. *Introspection in Dementia Precox* (pp. 145–170): EDWIN G. BORING. – Victims of dementia precox can give introspective evidence of the general

trend of their consciousness. They were found more suggestible, shifted their attention, but, on the whole, gave evidence as reliable as normal observers who are untrained, ignorant, and have a poor command of language. *Experiments on Color Saturation* (pp. 171–179): L. R. GEISSLER. – The preliminary report of an unfinished experiment on sensitivity to color saturation. Age and experience showed no influence. Sex differences were found. The liminal sensitivity is different for different colors. *On the Inheritance of Rhythm* (pp. 180–203): P. F. SWINDLE. – Rhythm seems to be acquired rather than inherited. The structure of our bodies is influential in the supposed instinctive rhythms. In the development of the sense of rhythm the skeletal muscles play the most important rôle. *Kinesthesia and the Intelligent Will* (pp. 204–253): GEORGE VAN NESS DEARBORN. – An experimental research which indicates that skill consists in fusion of extrinsic motor ideas and a certain intrinsic control which is largely inhibitory in nature. The author cites additional material which supports his view. *Bibliography. Magical Factors in the First Development of Human Labor* (pp. 254–261): FELIX KRUEGER. – Primitive people labor less in the sense in which we use the word, but much of their activity is taken up with ritualistic performances. These performances develop those psychological attitudes that make labor and later accomplishments possible. *Minor Studies from the Psychological Laboratory of Stanford University. Size and distance of projection of an after image on the field of the closed eyes* (pp. 262–266): FRANK ANGELL and W. T. ROOT, JR. *Minor Studies from the Psychological Laboratory of Vassar College. The effect of verbal suggestion on judgments of the affective value of colors* (pp. 267–269): INEZ POWELSON and M. F. WASHBURN. *Discussion. Professor Dodge's Recent Discussion of Mental Work* (pp. 270–274): F. M. URBAN. *Book Reviews.* F. M. Urban, *Die Praxis der Konstanzmethode* and *Hilftabellen fur die Konstanzmethode:* SAMUEL W. FERNBERGER. Francis Aveling, *The Consciousness of the Universal:* S. C. FISHER. N. K. Toropoff, *Conditioned Reflexes Excited by Visual Stimuli in the Dog Following Extirpation of the Occipital Lobes:* A. J. ROSANOFF. E. W. Scripture, *Stuttering and Lisping.* B. Hart, *The Psychology of Insanity.* Von J. Mourly Vold, *Ueber den Traum: experimentell-psychologische Untersuchungen.* A. Busse, *Aristotles über die Seele.* H. Hoffding, *A Brief History of Modern Philosophy.* Par G. Bonnet, *Precis d'autosuggestion volontaire: education pratique de la volonté.* F. Krueger, *Mitbewegungen beim Singen, Sprechen und Horen.* W. E. Kellicott, *The Social Direction of Human Evolution: an Outline of the Science of Eugenics.* A. Moll, *The Sexual Life of the Child.* E. Boutroux, *Historical Studies in Philosophy.* G. S. Fullerton, *The World We Live In, or Philosophy and Life in the Light of Modern Thought.* W. T. Marvin, *A First Book in Metaphysics.* C. A. Mercier, *Conduct and Its Disorders Biologically Considered.* J. H. Breasted, *Development of Religion and Thought in Ancient Egypt.* Lt.-Colonel J. Shakespear, *The Lushei Kuki Clans.* H. A. McMichael, *The Tribes of Northern and Central Kordofan.* C. A. Herter, *Biological Aspects of Human Problems.* O. Klemm, *Geschichte der Psychologie.* M. Dessoir, *Outlines of the History of Psy-*

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